

HOUSE RESOLUTION 383  
By Johnson

A RESOLUTION to recognize Mr. Jim Akins on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who in their years of work have performed with uncommon devotion and who have brought honor to Tennessee and to their profession; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jim Akins is one such estimable person who represented the education profession with probity for 33 remarkable years prior to his retirement this year from the Loudon County School System; and

WHEREAS, a native of Loudon County, Jim attended Davis Elementary School and graduated from Loudon Middle School; he received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville and his Master's and Ed. S. degrees from Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville; and

WHEREAS, Jim Akins began his estimable career in education at age 21 in 1969 at Loudon Junior High School, now Fort Loudon Middle School, where he taught Language Arts for seven years, and History and Civics for another seven years prior to becoming a principal; and

WHEREAS, after later stints as an assistant-principal and guidance counselor, Mr. Akins returned to his beloved principal's post, a position he held until his retirement; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious tenure in education, Mr. Akins distinguished himself as a professional educator and administrator of the highest order, who was widely respected and admired by students and peers alike for the proficiency of his work; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Akins' love for and commitment to public education is best illustrated by the fact that he enjoyed his 33 years in the profession and never wanted to do anything else; perhaps his greatest strength has been his innate ability to recognize and adapt to change in education and then by assisting staff, students and parents in the transition; and

WHEREAS, Jim Akins has earned the respect and admiration of the school's students, parents, faculty, and administration alike for the unsurpassed quality of his service; and

WHEREAS, he is the husband of Sally Akins, a secretary with Steekee Elementary School; the Akins are the proud parents of two children, Amy and Nathan Akins, and evince their devout religious faith as members of the Grace Baptist Church in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, he exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, known throughout the Loudon academic community as a leader of immense ability, Jim Akins selflessly attributes the success at Fort Loudon to his teachers, and their ability to reward students for progress and to help children succeed in an ever-changing educational system; and

WHEREAS, throughout his outstanding career, Jim Akins has made a lasting and immeasurable impact on the future leaders of our nation, and it is most appropriate that he be honored for his magnificent achievements; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor and recognize Mr. Jim Akins on the occasion of his retirement as Principal of Fort Loudon Middle

School and express to him our best wishes for much happiness and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.